



# California Department of Veterans Affairs

## Veterans News

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### GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF LANCASTER SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Pfc. Walter Freeman Jr. of Lancaster, CA:

"Private First Class Freeman fought for the liberties that set our nation apart as a beacon of freedom. Californians are forever grateful for Walter's dedication to our country. Maria and I offer our prayers for his family, friends and fellow soldiers during this difficult time."

Freeman, 20, died April 4 as a result of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO.

In honor of Pfc. Freeman, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



April 11, 2007

### GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF WALNUT CREEK SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Spc. James J. Coon of Walnut Creek, CA:

"Maria and I join all Californians in extending our heartfelt condolences to Specialist Coon's family. James courageously dedicated himself to our nation's mission to spread freedom. We offer our prayers for his friends and family as they mourn this tragic loss."

Coon, 22, died April 4 as a result of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle in Balad, Iraq. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, TX.

In honor of Spc. Coon, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.

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*Note to editors: This News for Veterans and previous CDVA news for veterans, news releases, and advisories are available on our website at [www.cdva.ca.gov](http://www.cdva.ca.gov) and via e-mail from [jaime.arteaga@cdva.ca.gov](mailto:jaime.arteaga@cdva.ca.gov).*